

What is claimed is:

1. An external storage to be connected to a host computer, comprising:

storing means which stores data to be used by the host computer; and

control means which controls the storing means,

wherein the control means comprises:

registering means which registers a recoverable point to be set by the host computer concerning data stored in the storing means;

information for selection sending means which sends information for selection at the registered recoverable point to the host computer in response to a request from the host computer; and

recovering means which recovers data designated by the host computer to a designated recoverable point on the basis of the information for selection at the recoverable point.

2. An external storage according to claim 1,

wherein the registering means is capable of registering arbitrary plural points, which are set by the host computer, as the recoverable point.

3. An external storage according to claim 1,

wherein the storing means has journal data storing means which stores writing data from the host computer as journal data, and

the registering means associates mark information with a predetermined position of the journal data on the basis of an instruction from the host computer to thereby register the recoverable point.

4. An external storage according to claim 3,

wherein the journal data includes at least writing data, a writing position, and recovery flag information serving as the mark information, and

the registering means sets predetermined recovery flag information in the journal data to thereby register the recoverable point.

5. An external storage according to claim 3,

wherein the storing means has backup data storing means which stores backup data,

the control means has journal data managing means, and

in the case in which a free space of the journal data storing means has become insufficient, the journal data managing means transfers oldest journal data stored in the journal data storing means to the backup data storing means to increase the free space of the journal data storing means and notifies the host computer that an oldest recoverable point among registered recoverable points has been changed.

6. An external storage according to claim 3,

wherein the control means has journal data managing means, and

in the case in which a free space of the journal data storing means has become insufficient, the journal data managing means uses an unused storage area in the storing means to automatically extend a logical size of the journal data storing means.

7. A data recovery method of recovering data of an external storage, which is connected to a host computer, in the external storage, comprising:

a registration step of registering a recoverable point which can be set to arbitrary plural points by the host computer concerning stored data;

a list transmission step of sending information for selection of the registered recoverable point to the host computer in response to a request from the host computer; and

a recovery step of recovering data designated by the host computer to a designated recoverable point on the basis of the information for selection at the recoverable point.

8. A program for controlling an external storage connected to a host computer,

wherein the external storage having storing means which stores data to be used by the host computer, and

the program realizes, on a computer of the external storage:

registering means which registers a recoverable point to be set to arbitrary plural points by the host computer

concerning data stored in the storing means;

information for selection sending means which sends information for selection at the registered recoverable point to the host computer in response to a request from the host computer; and

recovering means which recovers data designated by the host computer to a designated recoverable point on the basis of the information for selection at the recoverable point.

9. A program according to claim 8,

wherein the program realizes journal data managing means, which acquires journal data and stores the journal data in a journal data storage area of the storing means on a computer of the external strage, and

the registering means associates mark information with a predetermined position of the journal data on the basis of an instruction from the host computer to thereby register the recoverable point.

10. A program according to claim 9,

wherein, in the case in which a free space of the journal data storage area has become insufficient, the journal data managing means transfers oldest journal data stored in the journal data storage area to backup data storage area of the storing means to increase the free space of the journal data storage area and notifies the host computer that an oldest recoverable point among registered recoverable points has been

changed.

11. A program for controlling a host computer using an external storage,

wherein the program is a program for realizing, on the host computer,

registration instructing means which instructs and causes the external storage to register a recoverable point which can be set at arbitrary plural points concerning data stored in the external storage;

information for selection requesting means which requests information for selection at the recoverable point registered in the external storage; and

recovery instructing means which instructs the external storage to recover desired data to a desired recoverable point on the basis of the information for selection received from the external storage.